

TOP SECRET

28 March 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 28 March 1979

The Director was on a trip to the West Coast; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting. []

25X1

[] reported on the current Libyan-Egyptian situation: The Egyptian build up and activity across from the Canal to the western desert area, plus the amount of military equipment and preparations, are more than adequate to go against the Libyans in a defensive posture. Egyptian military leaves have been cancelled and discharges from military service have been halted. Mr. Carlucci asked how he should deal with this matter when he meets with the President later in the day. Consensus was that there is every reason to believe in Egyptian military success if they decide to move against Libya, but no certainty that Egypt will move--most unlikely before Sadat's return to Egypt on 30 March. However, given Sadat's disdain for Qadhafi and the probability that the Egyptians have more information than we do on the generally unsettled situation within Libya, a military initiative by Egypt upon Sadat's return home would be no surprise. [] noted that the issuance of an Alert Memorandum is being considered. Hicks expressed doubt about the usefulness of issuing an Alert Memorandum because reporting on the Libyan-Egyptian build up has been almost constant for some time. []

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

Taylor reported that, unlike previous years, we can expect better Committee attendance and higher interest at the upcoming Senate Appropriations Committee budget hearing on the Agency's 1980 program. []

25X1

25X1

TOP SECRET

25X1

[REDACTED]

Hicks reported on the wind down of the Soviet military exercise along the Sino-Soviet border. He noted that the airdrop late last week of some 800 troops was, in fact, a drop of only about 100 troops--3 killed and 30 injured in the event. [REDACTED]

25X1

Hitz reported that the HAC hearing (NFIP Overview) on 27 March went very well--compliments from the Chairman and staff. He noted that questions prepared by Snodgrass were of their usual high quality--some were answered during the hearing, others are to be answered in writing. Chairman Addabbo pressed the Director hard on NATO defense spending--that if the U.S. must "belly up" to higher expenditures, we must be certain that other NATO member countries are not shirking their responsibilities. In response, the Director pointed up that we don't spy on our friends. Mr. Carlucci commented that this is not a spying matter; it's an open economic matter, the answers to which are available without spying, e.g., from U.S. members of the NATO mission. [REDACTED]

25X1

Hitz went on to say that Senators Inouye, Mathias, and Chafee are expected at tomorrow's SSCI hearing on covert action. He recommended that McMahonUNCC [REDACTED] should handle this one--attendance by DDCI not essential. He also suggested that Bob Gambino should be able to handle the 4 April Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense hearing on the carrying of weapons by CIA personnel, but that the DDCI should be present at the 5 April HPSCI hearing on FOIA. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

Mr. Carlucci reported that yesterday's SCC on Charters Legislation lasted for only 30 minutes with a surprisingly pleasant absence of haggling among members--he hardly found the need to say a word. He noted the strong case made by Brzezinski and Aaron re the Hughes-Ryan Amendment and that the Justice Department will look again at the Amendment in search of flexibility in an effort to establish standards for application in routine and non-routine situations. [REDACTED]

25X1

Waller's return from the Far East was welcomed. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

Page Denied